

Town of Pleasant Garden
December 1, 2009
Kirkman Municipal Building

Minutes
Town Council Organization Meeting

*This document is a compilation.
The electronic recording of this meeting constitutes the official minutes.*

In attendance

Mayor Bill Greene
Councilwoman Chris Johnson
Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Jo Smith
Councilwoman Carla Strickland
Councilman Bob Wyrick

Also in attendance

Sandy Carmany, Town Administrator/Clerk
Linda Baker, Assistant Clerk
William Hill, Town Attorney

Audience

70+

Call to Order

Town Attorney Hill called the 2009 Organization Meeting of the Town of Pleasant Garden to order at 7:50pm.

Town Attorney Hill welcomed everyone.

Reverend Phil DeBerry of Pleasant Garden United Methodist Church delivered the invocation.

Mayor Greene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Oath of Office for Mayor

Judge Tom Foster administered the Oath of Office of the Mayor to Bill Greene with his wife Sharon Greene holding the family Bible.

Mayor Greene assumed the chair and presided for the remainder of the meeting.

Oath of Office for Councilmember

Judge Tom Foster administered the Oath of Office of Councilmember to Carla Strickland with her family and friends standing with her.

Roll Call

Town Administrator/Clerk Carmany called the roll, and all members were in attendance. A quorum was present.

Election of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Greene nominated Bob Wyrick for the office of Mayor Pro Tem. **FAILED 2-3** (*Yes – Greene and Wyrick; No – Johnson, Smith and Strickland*)

Councilwoman Johnson nominated Nancy Jo Smith for the office of Mayor Pro Tem. **APPROVED 3-2** (*Yes -- Johnson, Smith and Strickland; No -- Greene and Wyrick*)

Oath of Office for Mayor Pro Tem

Judge Tom Foster administered the Oath of Office for Mayor Pro Tem to Nancy Jo Smith.

Comments

Mayor Greene welcomed everyone and noted the inspiring standing-room-only attendance. He encouraged everyone to continue to attend meetings throughout the year. The mayor welcomed Commissioner Carolyn Coleman and acknowledged greetings from Congressman Howard Coble, Commissioner Billy Yow and Sheriff BJ Barnes who were unable to attend. He asked former mayors in attendance to stand and be recognized – Eddy Patterson and Mary Ann Yow. Mayor Greene thanked Judge Foster for administering the oaths of office and recognized former councilmembers Pete Rojeski, Gene Kimel, and Wilbur Berry.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Councilman Wyrick to remove Item 11H- Discussion of 2009 Committees from the agenda and place it on the January agenda. There was discussion about whether it was appropriate for events already scheduled in Town Hall for December to be held since the sponsoring committees ceased to exist if not reauthorized at this meeting. **APPROVED 3-2** (*Yes – Greene, Strickland and Wyrick; No – Johnson and Smith*)

MOVED by Mayor Greene to allow Reading Grows Community’s book discussion club to hold its planned event in Town Hall on December 11 provided no town funds are spent. In response to a question, Town Attorney Hill advised this action would not set a precedent because it was a one-time motion for a one-time pre-set event. **APPROVED 4-1** (*Yes – Strickland, Johnson, Smith, and Greene; No –Wyrick*)

MOVED by Mayor Greene to delete item 11I-Stage I Adaptive Management Program for Existing Development in the Jordan Watershed from the agenda and discuss this item in a special meeting. APPROVED 5-0

MOVED by Mayor Greene to approve the agenda as amended.

[SUBSTITUTE MOTION] MOVED by Councilmember Strickland to table Item 11B- Appointment of 2010 Board members until the Town Council can get together and come to agreement on the appointments. There was discussion about the need to make appointments while many applicants were present, the need to reach agreement through compromise, and responding to the public’s desire for new leadership. **APPROVED 3-2** (*Yes -- Johnson, Smith and Strickland; No -- Greene and Wyrick*)

The original motion to approve the agenda as amended was **APPROVED 3-2** (*Yes -- Johnson, Smith and Strickland; No -- Greene and Wyrick*)

New Business

A. *2009-10 Budget Amendments -- i. Budget Amendment 6:* Mayor Greene explained that this

amendment would move the \$15,000 from Reading Grows Community/Library line item to the General Fund Contingency/disaster line item.

MOVED by Mayor Greene to approve Budget Amendment 6. There was discussion about the allocation being the first step in exploring contracted library services and the lack of details about this proposal. **APPROVED 3-2** (*Yes – Greene, Strickland, and Wyrick; No – Johnson and Smith*)

2009-10 Budget Amendment 6

Ordinance Adopting the Budget of the Town of Pleasant Garden for Fiscal Year 2009-10
By the request of the Town Council:

Increase the following expense budget line item by the amount shown:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|
| 5999.00 GF Contingency/disaster | \$15,000 | |
| | TOTAL | \$15,000 |

Decrease the following expense budget line item by the amount shown:

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Community Outreach 5517.00 Reading Grows Community/Library | \$15,000 | |
| | TOTAL | \$15,000 |

Purpose: Mayor Greene has suggested that the money originally allocated for Reading Grows Community be reallocated to the GF Contingency/disaster line item.

ii. Budget Amendment 7: Town Attorney Hill advised that the NC General Statutes limit the allocation in the General Fund Contingency line item to 5% of the total budget. Therefore the Town Council could not adopt Budget Amendment 7 as originally proposed.

MOVED by Councilman Wyrick to amend and approve proposed Budget Amendment 7 by moving \$1,500 to line item 5402.00 Council Travel & Expenses, \$500 to line item 5403.00 Council Retreat, and \$200 to line item 5405.00 Educational Materials from line item 5507.00 E-cycling event. Mayor Greene noted that this left \$300 to provide food and beverage for the E-cycling event workers. **APPROVED 4-1** (*Yes – Greene, Johnson, Strickland and Wyrick; No – Smith*)

2009-10 Budget Amendment 7

Ordinance Adopting the Budget of the Town of Pleasant Garden for Fiscal Year 2009-10

By the request of the Town Council:

Increase the following expense budget line items by the amount shown:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| 5402.00 Council Travel and Expenses | \$1,500 | |
| 5403.00 Council Retreat | \$ 500 | |
| 5404.00 Educational materials | \$ 200 | |
| | TOTAL | \$2,200 |

Decrease the following expense budget line item by the amount shown:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Community Outreach 5507.00 E-cycling Event | \$2,200 | |
| | TOTAL | \$2,200 |

Purpose: The cost to operate the 2010 E-cycling event at the Pleasant Garden Town Hall will be covered by Guilford County. The only expense the Town should incur is for lunch and drinks for the workers and volunteers, estimated to cost \$300 or less. The remainder of the funds could be reallocated as the Town Council wishes.

Mayor Greene called a 20-minute recess. The meeting was recessed at 8:40pm.

Mayor Greene called the meeting back to order at 9:02pm.

Mayor Greene asked councilmembers to set a date for the special meeting to consider the two items that were removed from the agenda. After discussion, councilmembers agreed on Wednesday, December 9 at 7:00pm to hold a special meeting to consider board appointments and the Stage 1 Adaptive Management Program for Existing Development in the Jordan Watershed.

B. Appointment of 2010 Board members: (deleted from the agenda and delayed to the December 9 special meeting)

C. Appointment of Board liaisons:

MOVED by Mayor Greene to hold off on the appointment of board liaisons until the Town Council establishes the boards on December 9. Councilman Wyrick asked to wait and make the appointments at the regular meeting on January 5, 2010; Mayor Greene accepted this as a friendly amendment. **APPROVED 4-1** (*Yes – Greene, Smith, Strickland and Wyrick; No -- Johnson*)

D. Board Orientation date: Mayor Greene suggested the tentative date of January 7 for the board orientation.

MOVED by Mayor Pro Tem Smith to approve January 7 at 7:00pm for the board orientation. APPROVED 5-0

E. Council orientation/retreat discussion and/or selection of date: Mayor Greene said the council needed to have a retreat and find a way to work together. This would take a commitment from everyone to work towards that goal. The event can be held at Town Hall, and Ginger Booker of the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments is available to facilitate it.

MOVED by Mayor Greene to schedule Saturday, January 16 for a retreat/discussion from 8:30am – 2:00pm using Ginger Booker as the facilitator. APPROVED 5-0

Mayor Greene asked that the Town Attorney and town staff be present at the retreat.

F. Adoption of the 2010 meeting schedule:

MOVED by Mayor Greene to approve the 2010 meeting schedule as presented with the addition of the dates of January 7 for Board Orientation and January 16 for the council retreat. APPROVED 5-0

G. Approval of the 2010 staff holiday schedule: Mayor Greene presented the proposed staff holiday schedule for 2010. Councilman Wyrick asked that the Personnel Policy be reviewed regarding the ability to combine vacation time with holiday leave.

MOVED by Mayor Greene to approve the 2010 staff holiday schedule. APPROVED 5-0

H. Discussion of the 2009 committees: (deleted from the agenda and delayed to the January 5 meeting)

I. Stage 1 Adaptive Management Program for Existing Development in the Jordan Watershed: (deleted from the agenda and delayed to the December 9 special meeting)

J. Selection of date for 2010 E-cycling event at Pleasant Garden Town Hall: Town Administrator/Clerk Carmany asked that this item be tabled until Susan Heim of Guilford County Environmental Health can confirm the availability of the recycling contractor. Her suggested date is March 27.

Public Comment

Mayor Greene reviewed the guidelines for public comments.

Alan Marshall of 2318 Carlford Road congratulated Bill Greene and Carla Strickland on their election and thanked those who supported him in the election. He stated he was not going away and would continue to work for the town.

Staff Comment

Town Administrator/Clerk Carmany welcomed the new council and said she was looking forward to working with them. Town Attorney Hill and Assistant Clerk Baker offered their congratulations.

Comments from councilmembers

Councilwoman Strickland thanked everyone for coming out. Her vision is to achieve results through compromise; councilmembers should strive for 5-0 votes and be willing to make concessions to achieve what is best for Pleasant Garden. She does not align with any group and will rely on her business sense to reach decisions. She stated it was her honor and privilege to serve the residents of Pleasant Garden.

Councilwoman Johnson thanked everyone for coming and offered her best wishes to Mayor Greene. She said she was looking forward to working with people for the next two years and would continue to work toward her goals.

Mayor Pro Tem Smith welcomed Mayor Greene and Councilmember Strickland and said she was looking forward to the coming year.

Councilman Wyrick welcomed and congratulated Councilmember Strickland and Mayor Greene on their election victories. He thanked all who came out, including those who had left earlier. He said their attendance was a statement of what the people voted for and expected. In reference to the night's proceedings, he quoted Yogi Berra, "It's déjà vu all over again."

Comments from mayor

Mayor Greene said the evening was a start and the council was going to come together. He promised to keep his campaign promises as long as he had the support of the Town Council. He said he would offer up his platform at every opportunity and hoped other councilmembers would be supportive. Mayor Greene noted that Pleasant Garden was the #1 voting town in the county with a

32% turnout. People decided they needed to make a change and the Town Council needed to honor their vote. He said it was heartwarming to see the standing-room-only crowd and he thanked the people who supplied food and drinks for the reception.

Adjournment

Mayor Greene adjourned the meeting at 9:39pm.

Clerk

Date

Mayor